

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO USDOC WASHDC

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INFO AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

UNCLAS LONDON 13022

SECSTATE: PASS SEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BFOL, UK

SUBJECT: WTDR WILLIAM WARDEN LTD. (REQUESTED AS WARDEN
WALKER WORLDWIDE INVESTMENT CO.)

REF: USDOC 10397

1. ENGLAND 2. CNTRY CODE: NA 3. SER NO: NA

4. WILLIAM WARDEN LTD.

4A. CODE: 4B. CODE: NA

5. IMPERIAL HOUSE, LONDON ROAD, CROSS LANE

6. GUILDFORD, SURREY, ENGLAND

7. ESTABL: 1848 8. EMPL: NA 9. SIZE: MEDIUM

10. REPUTATION: NEGATIVE

11. IS UNDERSTOOD TO SELL IN U.S.A., EUROPE, EASTERN
ASIA AND NEAR EAST

12. RPT. DATE: 08/75

13A. SCOTCH WHISKY FINANCIERS AND BROKERS

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14. CONTACT: MARTIN J. BURKE TITLE: DIRECTOR

15. CABLE: NA 16. TELEX: 85404 17. TEL: 71241

18. FINANCIAL REFS: NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK LTD., 11
HIGH STREET, WATFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE WD1 2DG

19. TRADE REFS: NA

20. FOREIGN FIRMS REPRESENTED: NA

21. THIS FIRM DID NOT CO-OPERATE IN FURNISHING THE
EMBASSY WITH DETAILS REQUIRED IN THE PREPARATION OF
THIS REPORT, AND IT IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE PERTINENT
TRADE ASSOCIATION. IT WAS ORIGINALLY FOUNDED IN 1848 TO
TRADE AS A GROCERY FIRM, BUT OVER THE YEARS HAS HAD A
NUMBER OF CHANGES OF NAME, ACTIVITY AND OWNERSHIP. IT
NOW OPERATES AS SCOTCH WHISKY BROKERS AND FINANCIERS,
HANDLING MONEYS RECEIVED FOR INVESTMENT IN WHISKIES. IT
USES SEVERAL TRADING NAMES INCLUDING WARDEN WALKER
WORLDWIDE INVESTMENTS COMPANY AND NOBLE GLADWIN & CO.
IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT SINCE APRIL 1973 THE CONTROLLING
INTEREST HAS BEEN HELD BY MANDABAR INTERNATIONAL LTD.
A PRIVATE COMPANY REGISTERED IN 1971, OF 63 ATHOL
STREET, DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN. THE FIRM IS ALSO ASSOCIAT-
ED WITH WARDEN ALKER WHISKY INVESTMENT CO. LTD. AND ST.
ANDREWS WHISKY BROKERS LTD. AND IT IS DIFFICULT TO DIF-
FERENTIATE THEIR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES. PREVIOUSLY LOCATED
IN GLASGOW, AND LATER IN LONDON, HEAD OFFICES ARE NOW
IN GUILDFORD. THIS TYPE OF BUSINESS IS HIGHLY SPECULA-
TIVE, AND IN VIEW OF THE BAD EXPERIENCES AMERICAN CITI-
ZENS HAVE HAD WITH SOME SCOTCH WHISKY FUTURES VENTURES,
AND BECAUSE OF SEVERAL SPECIFIC TRADE COMPLAINTS AGAINST
WILLIAM WARDEN, THE EMBASSY CANNOT AT THIS TIME RECOM-
MEND THE FIRM AS A TRADE CONTACT. CREDIT SOURCES, HOW-
EVER, DESCRIBE THE FIRM AS "TRUSTWORTHY" AND GOOD FOR
"REASONABLE ENGAGEMENTS".

22. PREPARED BY: K. FARMER APPROVED BY: J.R.SAVAGE
AT: U.S. EMBASSY, LONDON

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